

John Rhea to Andrew Jackson, March 7, 1823, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN RHEA TO JACKSON.

Washington, March 7, 1823.

Dear General, I received your letter of the 17th of last month, and on the day I received it I went to the president and agreeably to the liberty you gave to me, I put it in his hands and he read it. he told me he had written to you on the subject. that letter I suppose you have received. I think you have done right in not accepting the appointment.¹ You might however have visited that Country and returned when you pleased. I however do approve of your remaining in Tennessee, and more so because I believe it is most agreeable to Mrs Jackson, to whom be pleased to remember me in the most respectful manner. I am hastening to get through with business of my constituents, that I may get away from here. accept my best wishes

¹ In connection with Jackson's refusal to be minister to Mexico, the following letter from Abner L. Duncan, of New Orleans, to James Gadsden, Jackson's intimate friend, July 5, 1823, is interesting to students of political methods: "The Mexican Govt owes me some 80 to one hundred thousand Dollars. The wise ones say, now that Genl. Jackson has rejected the appointment, it will probably be offered to Louisiana. Some of my friends say you understand the three languages, that is, French English and Spanish. You have contributed to the Independence of that Govt. You would be gladly recd. as Minister and although you are not much of a democrat the folks at Washington might be disposed to confide in you. Could not my friend Gadsden sound our worthy friend Genl. Jackson on the subject?"

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